

# The Times-Dispatch

Published every day in the year by  
The Times-Dispatch Publishing Co., Inc.  
THE TIMES-Dispatch, Founded.....1858  
THE DISPATCH, Founded.....1850  
Address all communications  
THE TIMES-DISPATCH,  
Telephone, Randolph 1.  
Publication Office.....10 S. Tenth Street  
South Richmond.....1020 14th Street  
Petersburg.....100 N. Sycamore Street  
Lynchburg.....218 Eighth Street

HASBROOK, STORY & BROOKS, INC.,  
Special Advertising Representatives.  
New York.....200 Fifth Avenue  
Philadelphia.....Mutual Life Building  
Chicago.....People's Gas Building

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.			
By Mail.	One Year.	Six Months.	Three Months.
Postpaid.	\$5.00	\$2.50	\$1.50
By Carrier.	4.00	2.00	1.00
By Express.	2.00	1.00	.50

By Times-Dispatch Carrier Delivery Service in  
Richmond (and suburbs) and Petersburg:  
Daily, with Sunday, one week.....15 cents  
Daily without Sunday, one week.....10 cents  
Sunday only.....5 cents

Entered January 27, 1905, at Richmond, Va., as  
second-class matter under act of Congress of  
March 3, 1879.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1914.

THE TIMES-DISPATCH and Breakfast  
are served together with unflinching regu-  
larity in the best homes of Richmond.  
Is your morning program complete?

## "Thank God for Wilson"

THE Democratic textbook for 1914 is a strong document. It has been prepared with great care, and nothing omitted that might aid to its appeal to the country. Its contents are well selected and well arranged. But the strongest and the best and the most appealing words of all are found on the front cover. Three sentences there justify its issue.

"War in the East! Peace in the West! Thank God for Wilson!"

There is nothing new in that. It has been in the minds of the American people for weeks, and it is going to elect in November a Congress in sympathy with Woodrow Wilson. In few places will it be other than suicide to attack the foreign policies of the present administration.

## The Louvain Photographs

THERE have now been published in this country reproductions of actual photographs of the havoc wrought in Belgium cities by the German armies. These constitute a far more telling indictment than anything the accredited Belgian atrocity delegation could say. They tell a horrifying tale of peaceful homes destroyed, and of priceless monuments of architecture laid in ruins. The Louvain pictures, in particular, are mute but very eloquent witnesses against the invaders.

This beautiful city had not been bombarded; it had not been defended. Because of "sniping," actual or imaginary, by the citizens, it has been turned into an aching desolation. An American force was shipped at in Vera Cruz. But our men stopped the sniping. They did not destroy the town. Had they been trained in the gentle art of "striking terror" into the hearts of the inhabitants of an invaded country, they might possibly have acted no otherwise than did the Germans in Belgium.

## "You, Too," Not Convincing

WHILE it is a violation of neutrality to suggest to Herman Ridder that the in quoque form of argument is a confession of guilt, and that sneers at those who express horror at an act of vandalism does not prove that the act of vandalism was not committed. The truth about the Rheims cathedral is not yet known, and the people of this country are willing to reserve opinion until all the facts are brought out, but it might be suggested in the meantime that the line of defense adopted by Mr. Ridder is calculated, at least, to arouse suspicion that the French charges are true. If Mr. Ridder has proof to the contrary, he should advance it; but charges that other people, among them ourselves, are not guilty of barbarism in war, reads very much like an admission that he has no such proof. In the circumstances, silence, just at the present, would help his cause. As it is, he has greatly prejudiced it in this as in many other instances.

## Richmond's Vote

RICHMOND'S interest in the State-wide prohibition election of Tuesday is indicated by the size of the vote polled. More than 10,000 citizens went to the polls to register their views on this momentous question. It was the largest vote cast in Richmond in recent years.

All of which is a source of satisfaction. Great public interest in great public questions is encouraging to those who believe in democracy, and who know that its success depends upon the participation of the people in the government. Yet sober second thought makes for dissatisfaction. Ten thousand votes is a great many compared to the number usually cast, but in proportion to the number which should be cast, it is small. It is less than one-half what the total would be if every man had performed his plain duty. It is a gratifying proportion of the number registered, but the number registered is disappointingly small. Richmond should cast at least 20,000 votes in an election of the importance of that of Tuesday. A vote of 10,293 is really discreditable.

## War's Aftermath

WITHIN recent years, the United States Department of Commerce tells us, American cotton goods trade in Manchuria has been curtailed by Japanese competition. That was to be expected because of Japan's geographical position, but that all is not well with the Japanese mills, and that they have not yet captured their share of the trade is indicated by a recent bulletin issued by the United States Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. The reason for this is told in many words by the bulletin, but it can be told in one word. That word is "war."

Not the present war, but the war Japan waged a decade ago against Russia is shaking Japanese commerce. The fighting ended then, but the results have not yet passed. "The first cost of the mills," says the bulletin, "is so great that, with high interest charges and high taxes, which have been

greatly increased since the Russian war, the manufacturers have resisted all attempts by the authorities to enact regulations that would interfere with night work." In other words, because of a war ten years in the past, manufacturers are prevented from making the most of a great trade opportunity, taxes are high for all classes, and the condition of the laborer remains unimproved.

And when Japan emerges from the war upon which she has just entered, conditions will be worse rather than better.

## Irish Home Rule and Democracy

AFTER years of struggle and bitterness, autonomy for Ireland is a law. Owing to the war emergency, and true to the British spirit of compromise, the law does not become effective for at least one year, and if the war lasts longer than twelve months, not until the treaty of peace is signed.

This is a victory for democracy. The Tory Conservative party, representing aristocratic ideals, is unalterably opposed to giving home rule to Erin. Its opposition to the desires of a democratic government has brought England closer to civil war than at any time since Cromwell's roundheads had the word of the Lord in their mouths and lethal weapons in their hands. This same Cromwell—whose name is still an evil tradition in Ireland—placed the heaviest hand upon the Emerald Isle that it has known since Richard II. fastened the English grip on it. After many years the party which in England represents the same unalterable opposition to Roman Catholicism that Cromwell did, liberates Ireland from a system of government which has made her a rankling thorn in England's side.

The hope of the English that service on the battlefield will unite Protestant and Catholic Ireland and so make Ulster a willing partner in the benefits that will flow from home rule, is echoed on this side of the Atlantic, where sympathies for the desires of people of one race to govern themselves are axiomatic. Liberal legislation, even by Conservative governments, has greatly lessened the real burdens of Irishmen in the last decade, but it remained for a liberal—not to say a radical ministry—to grant to Ireland the full measure of what she asked.

And here, perhaps, is another indication of why American sympathy leans so much more to the allies in the present conflict than to Germany. We have not forgotten the War of the States, nor have we forgotten 1812 and the rest of it. But the man in the street knows that democratic England does not tolerate the sort of methods which Germany has practiced wherever she has had a chance to enforce her will on a weaker people. In South Africa a general who bore arms—and amazingly effective arms they were—against England is the Prime Minister; in India more and more power is being given to the natives; so also in Egypt, much to the disgust of an American ex-President. Democratic England has now passed a home rule bill for Ireland, and so removed what has been in American eyes a blot on her escutcheon. If it has also removed a bar to the enlistment of Irish soldiers into the British army, that is accidental, inasmuch as the bill was passed when the war was unreamed of. Americans contrast this with the treatment by Germany of her Polish and Alsatian subjects, and find that the English method approximates more closely to our own way with those subject to our control. It should not astonish clear-minded Germans that one democracy sympathizes with another democracy rather than with an autocracy.

## Armageddon—And Others

THE Seventh Day Adventists are conducting a vigorous campaign to prove that the present European disturbance is a precursor to Armageddon—that last great battle at the coming of the Lord. The world in general will not be alarmed. A scientist declaring that if the earth were flattened, it would be covered with two miles of water. An editorial paragraph in Kansas said: "If any man is caught flattening the earth, shoot him on the spot; a lot of people around here can't swim." Similarly, if any man is caught bringing about the end of the world at this time, he should be severely handled, because a lot of people around here are not ready for it.

It's curious how many great movements brings on prophets. At the time of the Charleston earthquake there were honest people, wholly sincere folk, who actually believed that it was the end of time. So, in the case of that one tremendous meteoric shower that was visible in all parts of earth, when hosts of zealots quoted from the prophecy concerning the falling of the stars, and the dark day, when the sun did not shine, and when a certain Senator in Washington, opposing a motion to adjourn, said: "Gentlemen, if this is not the end of the world, there is no need to adjourn; if it is, I wish to be found doing my duty."

That's the keynote of all human effort worth while. No matter what is going on in Europe, no matter whether this is Armageddon or the precursor of Armageddon, every man who is worth while will be found doing his duty. Let disaster of any sort come, the toiler should be found at his work, doing his manly part and allowing nothing to frighten him. The things we most fear are those that never happen; the troubles that grieve us most are those that never come; the greatest happiness is the one that takes us by surprise, which, had we known of it beforehand, might have appeared as a grief.

The world's all right to its end. The only trouble is with people who ride it—and those who are riding it right are not going to fret about Armageddon.

## The Passing of Theodore

IF as is circumstantially reported, T. R. has admitted that there is no possibility of his getting the Republican nomination for the presidency in 1916, it is clear that we are now witnessing among the last appearances on the public stage of the most conspicuous ex-President that the United States has ever known.

His passing is not without its pathos. He was a blazing personality at the Republican convention in 1911. He was not without appeal when he organized the Progressive party, and he polled an amazing number of votes as its candidate. Since then his strength has steadily disintegrated, until Maine showed that Rooseveltism is about as dead in this country as it is expected Kaiserism will soon be in Europe. It is even held that the fruits of Rooseveltism have taught the voters to light shy of anything approaching the same sort of imperialism in this country. The country has not forgotten "My policies" nor the desire to make of Taft a marionette whose actions were to be controlled by his predecessor.

The same old Bill Sulzer, having been denied the Progressive endorsement for the Governorship of New York, may have a better chance of winning than some people thought.

## WAYSIDE CHATS WITH OLD VIRGINIA EDITORS

The Southwest Times will issue a trade edition of thirty-two pages next week. Following its advice, we are watchfully waiting for it, with the assurance that it will be worth the waiting.

The fall fashion number of the Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch was "some" number from a business standpoint. Typographically, it was attractive.

The Portsmouth Star warns against disappointment those people who expect to read of the slaughter of tens of thousands when the casualty lists are published. It doesn't believe there has been "terrible" loss of life in France so far.

When checks for less than \$50 are exempted from the war tax, the question, frankly explained, the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot, "enters the realm of the purely academic so far as we are personally concerned."

"Encouragements to Democrats" is the headline in the Fredericksburg Free Lance. There has been little else but encouragement for Democrats lately.

"We confess we cannot understand the declaration of Professor Hugo Munsterberg, of Harvard, that for nations to respect the possessions of other nations as individuals respect the private property of individuals would be 'the grossest immorality,'" says the Petersburg Index-Appeal. Nor can any one else, but who tries to understand the present day declarations of Professor Hugo Munsterberg?

Not being possessed of a too rigid conscience, we have been glad to put in a good word for the Halifax Gazette from time to time, but when it now that, if it values our good will, it will not even thank us in French words. We are too busy sitting at the feet of the Chase City Progress, learning Latin, and at the feet of the Newport News Press, learning English poetry, to enter a French class.

Once more we make an appeal to "Granny," of the Covington Virginian and Covington Dispatch. Lengthen that column entitled "Residence of Old Virginia."

The Lynchburg News frankly admits that Woodrow Wilson is not a superman. Nor are the American people supermen. Their race is not a super-race. We are merely people of a democracy who are trying to make that democracy a success, and hoping that all the nations of the world will some day turn to that doctrine. In the meantime, we are working to that end by demonstrating its virtue. We are not a superior race seeking to impose our ideas and power upon others at the point of the bayonet.

"With the State-wide election out of the way and the liquor problem settled for some time to come," begins the Clifton Forge Review. But the liquor problem is not settled for some time to come, and, if that be assumed by the people of Virginia, prohibition will be a worse failure than its bitterest opponent ever predicted.

## VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Letters to the Editor should not be over 250 words in length, and the name and address of the writer must accompany each communication, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of good faith. Write on one side of the paper, and enclose stamp, if manuscript is to be returned. Partisan letters concerning the European war will not be published.

## Let the Majority Rule.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—I am sorry the State voted for prohibition. I believe it was a mistake, but since a big majority of Virginians think otherwise, and believing in the right of the majority to rule, I will certainly help in every way I can to enforce whatever laws are made on the subject.

We anti-prohibitionists may have been wrong, if we, should be glad to be set right. The quickest way to repeal a bad law is to rigidly enforce it, and by so doing we prove the problem.

There is some talk of testing the constitutionality of the enabling act. If this is done and the act is held unconstitutional, I will cheerfully join the dry forces in obtaining such an amendment to our Constitution as will permit the majority of the people of this State to make its laws.

M. D. HAIR.

## A Vain Search.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—I have been trying all day to find a man who did not know how the election was going to turn out.

J. C. T.

## Teacher or Pupil?

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—Professor Hugo Munsterberg declares that the people of the United States cannot think that they are like a flock of sheep and that they have reached a decision on the right and wrong of the war without due consideration. And yet Professor Munsterberg has been teaching us for, I think, many years. Is he a failure or his pupils? BLACK SHEEP.

Richmond, September 23, 1914.

## Reconomy, Extravagance and Parsimony.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—No one blames the Administrative Board for desiring to find the kind of asphalt that costs the least. Any evidence toward economy is encouraging. But it should always be kept in mind that the cheapest is not always the best. A warning that should not be necessary, but is. Ten thousand dollars is a good sum to save, but we must be sure we are saving it. Parsimony is as extravagant as extravagance.

ECONOMY.

Richmond, September 23, 1914.

## THE BRIGHT SIDE

### Quite Reasonable.

"That rich Mr. Smith is going to build a home that will cost \$5,000,000." "That looks as if the plumbing was included."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

### The Miracle War.

"We are going to give up having Johnny get an education." "For what reason?" "Well, we can't get him sterilized every morning in time to go to school."—Puck.

### Military Strategy.

Knicker—Does Henkitt fight with his wife? Backer—No, he says he wears her down by a policy of retreating.—New York Sun.

### How She Used Her Eyes.

Mr. Briggs received a note from a farmer living back quite a ways in the country, requesting him to come as quickly as possible to see his child who was very sick with a very bad cold.

The doctor examined the child and then turned to the mother.

"Don't you know," he asked, "that your little girl is coming down with the measles?" "Yes, doctor," was the woman's reply, "I know she was."

"Then why in the world," asked the doctor, "did you write me that she had a very bad cold?"

"The woman hesitated for a moment, then looking at her husband, she said, with sullen frankness:

"Neither him nor me knew how to spell measles."—National Monthly.

## WHAT WAS NEWS FIFTY YEARS AGO

From the Richmond Dispatch Sept. 24, 1864.

There comes a report that two brigades of Federal infantry have crossed into Culpeper County at Wilford's Ford and Lee Spring. This is construed to be an attempted flank movement.

Some picket firing and mortar shelling in front of Petersburg yesterday constituted the day's doings between the armies of Lee and Grant.

Scouts report that it is very evident that the Federals expect an attack on their right, now resting on the Petersburg and Weldon Railroad, and are maintaining the utmost vigilance at that point.

On the left and center in front of Petersburg yesterday there was nothing doing but the incessant interchange of compliments between the sharpshooters of both armies and occasional duels of short duration, which are more noisy than destructive.

There is ample evidence that General Grant is receiving large reinforcements from the North, and it is expected that in a very short while the news from Petersburg is going to be more exciting than it has been for some time past.

The Federal schooner John F. Duffee was captured in the Warwick River on the 20th by Master John Maxwell, of the Confederate Navy. The vessel was bonded and the crew paroled. This capture was made within the Federal lines, and was a daring piece of work.

Returned Confederate prisoners from Fort Delaware report the suffering among the prisoners to be something awful to think about, and well calculated to make an exchanged soldier prefer death on the field to being made a prisoner again.

The information from Mobile is to the effect that the enemy's fleet in the bay is being constantly enlarged, and it is certain that preparations are being made to make a desperate attempt to capture or destroy the city.

The Federal raid in Orange County, which lately appeared in the Orange and Alexandria Railroad was a strong one. They came in haste and left hurriedly. The only damage done was the partial burning of the railroad bridge over the Rapid Run and the total destruction of Halliday's Mills. The real object of the raid, it seems, was the capture of Colonel John S. Mosby, of whose wounding the enemy had heard, and who they supposed would pass over that route on his way home. He, however, was far beyond their reach, and safely arrived in Richmond by the Central Railroad train last evening.

Among the Confederate prisoners to reach home yesterday by the flag of truce bore Captain B. E. Smith, William F. White, Aaron Burton, W. C. Tompkins and J. B. Allen, of Richmond, and Dr. Howell, of Chesterfield County.

Tobacco is much more desired by Confederate prisoners in Northern prisons than money, for it will buy more. This is given as hint to those who may be sending boxes to their loved ones in prison.

In the special election in the Fourth magistracy of Henrico County, to fill a vacancy in the office of marshal, Martin Moore, fifth Lapscombe, was elected, receiving more votes than all three of his competitors combined.

## Current Editorial Comment

We are happy indeed to print elsewhere a letter from a reader in regard to the work of Ambassador and Mrs. Gerard at Berlin. Without detracting in any way from the work of our other diplomats, all of whom, with possibly our exception, seem to have done well. Mr. Gerard's work at Berlin has stood out as meriting the highest praise. This the Evening Post is all too ready to admit. It has had some doubts as to the wisdom of this appointment, but now that the British ambassador's work for it, no one could have been more courageous and helpful during the trying days before the armistice of war in Berlin than was Mr. Gerard. He has taken over enormous difficulties and given complete satisfaction. More than that, his unceasing efforts, together with those of his wife, for the welfare of stranded soldiers, has been a credit to our country, and when they have aided, it is an open secret that they have not stopped at losing funds of the government, but personally assumed heavy obligations, and always in the kindest and most helpful spirit.—New York Evening Post.

The head of New York's gang of "wildness" who lappers has at last been arrested and sentenced to a term of not less than five, nor more than ten years. For years he has made money in large and small sums by pretending to be able to tap the telegraph wires and obtain the names of horses winning races ahead of the pool rooms. The fact that he has escaped prosecution so long is not nearly so surprising as that he was always able to find some one to fall a victim to his old scheme that has been exposed hundreds of times in the newspapers. He swindled fully as many New Yorkers as he did strangers, which explains why New York crooks rarely find it necessary to travel in search of prey.—Washington Herald.

Recent travelers in the Dominion have remarked the abundant evidence on every hand of the good feeling that exists on the part of Canadians toward the United States. It was a Canadian cabinet member, the Hon. W. L. Vining, minister of labor, who first proposed the suitable commemoration of the century of peace which the treaty of Ghent assured. The month peace conference of 1910 ratified the suggestion and appointed a committee.

Never was the need greater of a unity of thought and action, though not of political control, throughout the Americas. While European nations are engaged in a spectacle of the result of pulling several ways, it is for us upon the Western Hemisphere, south and north, to demonstrate the infinite blessing of peace. Those who think it an irony to deserve such a large part of their world's work as at war, forget the fact that then, more than ever, is the time to let it be known that it is unity and not diversity that makes civilized progress a fact and not a pleasant fiction.—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Big Navy Means War. The bubble of "armed peace" in Europe has been suddenly burst, and a great navy for "armed peace" in America might prove a very frail barrier if we were tempted to avoid a naval engagement in our rights by some other people. It may be at least a question whether with increased taxation already, and increased cost of living, we need any more navy at all for any present purpose.—St. Joseph News Press.

Insane Patient. May the superintendent of an asylum have a patient confined in the criminal ward without legal warrant?

Any such action would render him liable to an investigation ordered by the court of the circuit in which the asylum is located.

Hunting Season. During what months is it allowable in Virginia to kill partridges and hares? E. W. R.

East of the Blue Ridge, the season may begin as early as November 1, and close as late as February 1. West of it may open on February 1, but must close on December 31. The only supervisors have authority to shorten but not to lengthen the season in any county (as a general thing), and there is no certainty about the condition of affairs in a given county unless there were some Central States' Attorney of that county a statement of the facts.

Queries and Answers.

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## FAIR WEATHER AND FAIR WEEK

ONE OF THE DAYS BEST CARTOONS



From the Nashville Tennessean.

## Unrecorded Heroism

LONDON, September 23.—There can be no reasonable doubt that as much heroism is being displayed in the titanic war now convulsing Europe as was seen in other great wars, but the public hears little about it. The strict regulations governing war correspondents and war news is the reason. In the Boer War the crack writers of the world were at the front. They saw much of what went on and were in a position to talk with the troops after every engagement. The papers of the world were filled with snappy, graphic, first-hand stories of the great battles of the war in South Africa.

Even in the Franco-Prussian War, forty years ago, when facilities of communication were not so advanced as now, there were war correspondents with the armies who thrilled the public with vivid, pulsating accounts of the fighting.

Though the Japanese, in their war against Russia were the first power to put drastic restrictions on the correspondents, they nevertheless allowed the writers near enough to the front to get red-blooded stories of what went on. But in this European War, the newspaper and magazine readers are getting nothing but a few straggling stories told by wounded men, invalided home. England, France, Belgium and Germany allow no correspondents with their armies. The British Press Bureau and the offices of France and Belgium have out of brief statements, telling the bare facts of the day's events. That and the few incidents related by the wounded is all the people are getting.

All the heroism that has been displayed by British troops in the present war will never be known. A few individual cases may chance to be heard of others will be known only to the recording angels. Two instances of extraordinary bravery on the part of the Germans are mentioned by a couple of wounded soldiers now lying in the London Hospital in the course of the narrative of their own adventures.

One of them, a splendid fellow, of the Royal West Kent Regiment, said: "We were in a regular position just outside Mons from Saturday afternoon till Monday morning. After four hours of action each of our six big guns was out of action. Either the gunners were killed or wounded or the guns themselves damaged. For the rest of the time that we, until Monday morning, when we retired, we had to make do with our light guns. We were not able to retaliate. It was bad enough to stand this incessant banging away, but it made it worse not to be able to reply."

"All day Sunday and all Sunday night the Germans continued to shrapnel us. At night it was just hellish. We had constructed some entrenchment but it didn't afford much cover, and our losses were very heavy. On Monday we received the order to retire to the south of the town and some hours later, when the roll-call was called, it was found that we had 500 dead alone, including four officers."

"Then an extraordinary thing happened. Me and some of my pals began to dance. We were just dancing for joy at having escaped with our skins. The first of the things we did was to get, when bang! and there came a shell from the blue and burst and got it. I should think, quite twenty of us."

"That's how some of us got wounded, as we thought we had escaped. Then another half dozen of us got wounded this way. Some of our boys went down a street nearby and found a basin and water, and were washing their hands and faces when another shell burst above them and laid most of them out."

"What happened to us happened to the Gloucesters. Their guns, too, were put out of action and the men had to stand the shell-fire for hours and hours before they were told to retire. What we would have done without our second command I don't know."

In the head, he had a wound through the cap in the front and two behind and lost a lot of blood. Two of our fellows helped us bind up his head and for force we carried him back, but he said, 'It isn't so bad. I'll be all right soon.' Despite his wounds and loss of blood he carried on until we retired on Monday. Then, I think they took him off to the hospital."

A stalwart chap of the Cheshires here broke in. "Our Cheshire boys were also badly put up. Apart from the wounded, several men got concussion of the brain by the mere explosion. It was awful. Under the cover of their murderous artillery fire, the German infantry advanced to within 300 and 500 yards of our positions. With fixed bayonets we waited through six bayonets, and stood up to the charge. That did it for the German infantry. They turned tail and ran for their lives."